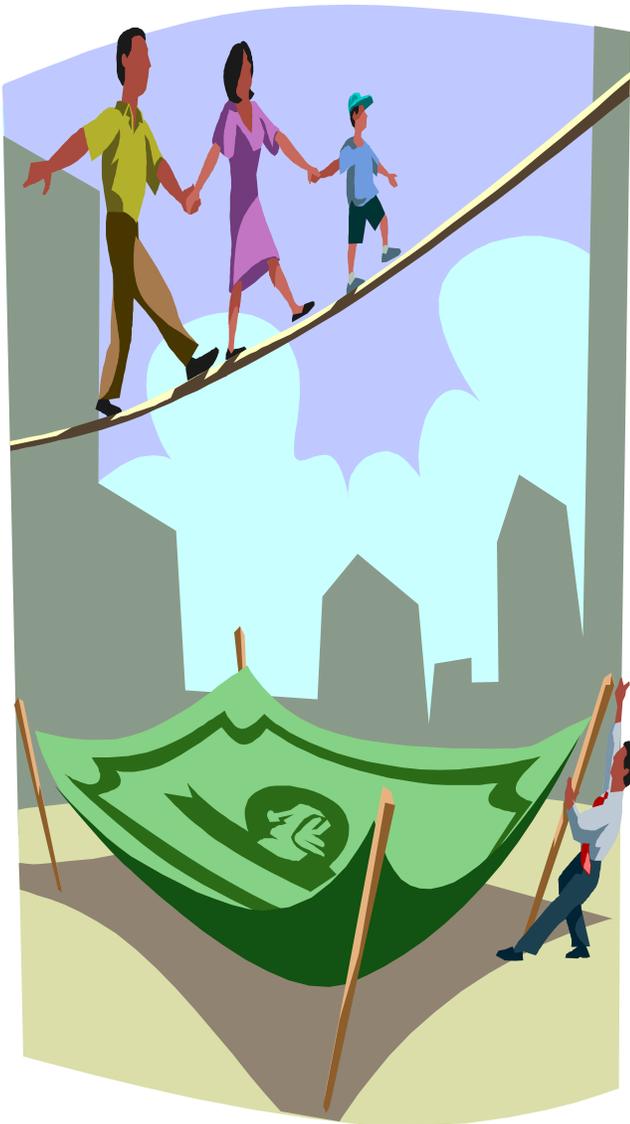


Kent County Emergency Needs Task Force



Leadership Subcommittee

- **Purpose:**

*Providing day to day
management support to
ENTF direct service
subcommittees*

I. Introduction to Leadership Subcommittee

The Leadership Subcommittee is comprised of Kent County Emergency Needs Task Force subcommittee chairs and key support organization representatives. Its primary purposes are to assist in development of necessary resources, to creatively solve problems and to advocate for basic human needs with key audiences. This role was carried out during 2004/05 through numerous contacts with all of the ENTF committees described in this report. The Leadership Subcommittee's strategy for using a virtual meeting structure has proven quite successful. Communication by e-mail and telephone has kept ENTF Committee leadership connected and engaged. These contacts have been supplemented by periodic meetings that have focused on review of accomplishments, identification of need, and consensus for future focus.

II. Achievements

Recommendations presented for 2004/05 were implemented. Highlights include:

Continue to work on inter-committee communication and coordination.

- The Leadership Subcommittee maintained membership representing all ENTF subcommittees and the community; met regularly to chart Task Force direction and communicated continually via virtual connections to get work done
- The HCOC, Transportation, Food Subcommittees were requested by the Area Agency on Aging/Grand Rapids Community Foundation's, Creating Community For a Lifetime collaborative to partner in their work by inserting basic needs resources into the senior focused strategic plan.
- The HCOC Vision To End Homelessness initiative incorporated all ENTF resources into its planning structure for ending homelessness in Kent County in 10 years.
- As part of the ENTF Food Subcommittee's strategic plan implementation, formal connections were developed with the Transportation Subcommittee to address food distribution and access issues.
- Work was started with Kent County to build an ENTF web section on Kent County's website. When completed, the site will enhance communication between Subcommittees, the community and other service systems.

Develop basic needs community indicators, refine data analysis and continue development and distribution of reports and other information.

- The HCOC Housing Management Information System (HMIS) computer network was formally launched and is now being used for information sharing, data collection and networking between local housing providers.
- The 211/Basic Needs Data Group published quarterly "state of the community" reports analyzing current issues surrounding basic needs services.
- The Delta Strategy/GVSU-CRI annual Community Survey was commissioned by Heart of West Michigan United Way to include national indicators on basic needs issues in the recently completed key informant survey. Results will be published Spring 2005.
- The ENTF Transportation Subcommittee's computerized Single Access Medical Transportation system design work included special attention to data gathering in support of the ENTF focus on data driven decision making.

Expand funding and management resource development on behalf of all subcommittees.

- The HCOOC successfully completed negotiations with local foundations for multi-year funding of The Vision To End Homelessness.
- The Food Subcommittee received the support of numerous GVSU student interns working through a field placement project negotiated by Spectrum Health Healthier Communities as a member of the Subcommittee.
- The Food Subcommittee is pursuing additional funding opportunities as part of its strategic plan implementation
- The Kent County Emergency Food and Shelter Board (FEMA Board) continues reviewing ENTF work to assure effective investment of its annual allocation projected to reach \$500,000 for the coming year.

Continue work on basic needs advocacy issues.

- Discussions were started on more effectively aligning the ENTF and Kent County Family and Children's Coordinating Council collaboratives which will provide a more prominent place with policy makers, funders and the community for basic needs issues.
- Work continues with the United Way Public Policy Committee to share basic needs issues for advocacy support as they arise.
- The Utility Subcommittee wrote a white paper during the fall of 2004 detailing potential, severe funding impacts. The report was used to educate state and local policy makers on the need for quick action to provide better funding vehicles to meet utility assistance requests.

Develop strategies to promote broader public education on basic needs issues.

- Three thousand copies of the 2004/05 ENTF Update Report brochure were distributed throughout the community and state sharing news on the work of the Kent County Emergency Needs Task Force with current and potential supporters.
- The Vision to End Homelessness initiative hired a communications consultant to maximize news about housing systems realignment work being completed in 2005.
- ENTF members presented to numerous groups on basic needs issues.
- The Food Subcommittee participated in the annual Food Resource Council summit, sharing information on work the subcommittee is doing to address hunger and nutrition issues with participants from a wide area of the Mid-West.
- The Food Subcommittee developed a PowerPoint presentation with GVSU student interns that will be used to expand the impact of the committee on potential supporters.

III. Recommendations for 2004/2005

The Leadership Subcommittee continues to serve as the administrative support for the Kent County Emergency Needs Task Force. This role allows the subcommittees the ability to focus on service issues with the knowledge that the administrative work continues to be conducted. To continue this work, the following recommendations for 2004/05 include:

- Continue to work on inter-committee communication and coordination.
- Develop basic needs community indicators, refine data analysis and continue development and distribution of reports and other information.
- Expand funding and management resource development on behalf of all subcommittees.
- Continue work on basic needs advocacy issues.
- Develop strategies to promote broader public education on basic needs issues.

Leadership Subcommittee Roster

David Bulkowski, Co-Chair
Transportation Subcommittee
Disabilities Advocates, Inc.

Kathy Lachniet
Transportation Subcommittee
Kent County Department of Human Services

Susan Morales-Barias
2-1-1 Basic Needs Data Coordination
Heart of West Michigan United Way

Nancy Marshall
Utility Assistance Subcommittee
Kent County Department of Human Services

Wayman Britt
Kent County Administrator's Office
Kent County

Harold Mast, Co-Chair
Shelter Subcommittee
Genesis Non-Profit Housing Corp

Tony Campbell
Leadership Subcommittee
Heart of West Michigan United Way

Phyllis Moody
Shelter Subcommittee
Project Rehab

Terry Cruzan, Co-Chair
Food Subcommittee
The Salvation Army

David Schroeder
ENTF Management Support
Heart of West Michigan United Way

Kathy Dugas
Shelter Subcommittee
Kent County Department of Human Services

Sue Sefton, Co-Chair
Transportation Subcommittee
Kent County Health Department

Maureen Geary, OP
HCoC Coordinator
The Salvation Army

Karen Tolan, Chair
Utility Assistance Subcommittee
ACSET-CAA

Kathy Greiner
Program Liason
Kent County Department of Human Services

Sue Toman
Leadership Subcommittee
Kent County Department of Human Services

Bernard Hoogland
Food Subcommittee
Kent County Department of Human Services

Nancy Ulrey, Co-Chair
Food Subcommittee
Second Harvest Gleaners

Jeff Hudson
Shelter Subcommittee
Kent County Department of Human Services

Sherri Vainavicz
ENTF Report Development
Heart of West Michigan United Way

Carolyn Kendall
211 Basic Need Data Coordination
Heart of West Michigan United Way

Andrew Zylstra
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Kent County Department of Human Services